

Entrepreneurs and small businesses are engines of innovation and economic growth; the small businesses in my district are at the forefront of innovation. The diverse innovation of small businesses in my district from aerospace to healthcare will be able to expand market share with the support of these six key initiatives. I will continue to fight for legislation that will support the approximately 16,300 small businesses in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Administration for taking the necessary steps to help small businesses expand their export programs and alleviate potential layoffs. I urge my colleagues to build upon the Administration's executive actions and provide more support for small businesses.

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND ARMED FORCES RESERVES

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all the members of our National Guard and Armed Forces Reserves who defend our nation at home and abroad, and to voice my support of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program operated through the Department of Defense.

The ESGR provides education, consultation, and if necessary mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve employees. As the 1.3 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions within America's borders and beyond, ESGR will continue to be the resource for the employers of citizen warriors.

Members of the National Guard and Reserve bring a strong work ethic, leadership and specialized skills to the civilian workplace, and hiring veterans is a great way employers can show their appreciation for the service and sacrifice of our military men and women.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of ESGR and their mission to assure that all American employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve forces.

IN CELEBRATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the hundred-year anniversary of the founding of Rice University, one of our nation's preeminent research universities.

Founded through the estate of Mr. William Marsh Rice as a gift to the City of Houston, Rice Institute, as it was originally known, opened its doors on September 23, 1912, with 77 students and a dozen faculty.

From these humble beginnings, Rice University has risen to be a leader in science, engineering, medicine, music, and athletics.

Rice placed a critical part in the development of our nation's space program and was

the site of President John Kennedy's famous "moon speech" in 1962.

Today, Rice is recognized as one of the top national research universities in the country by such publications as *Forbes* and *U.S. News and World Report*.

Rice is also recognized for its residential college system, similar to resident colleges at Oxford and Cambridge, its beautiful campus grounds and architecture, and the high quality of student life.

A list of famous alumni include a "Who's who" of Houston's most recognized citizens, including George R. Brown, Thomas Cruikshank, William Hobby, and our present mayor, Annise Parker.

I congratulate Rice University, its students, faculty, and alumni on their 100 years of success and thank them for the vital role they serve on behalf of the Houston community and wish them another 100 years of trail-blazing, discovery, and success.

THE SACRIFICE A SOLDIER MAKES

HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, following is the essay written by Katie Smith in honor of her brother, SPC Andrew Smith, and all soldiers.

THE SACRIFICE A SOLDIER MAKES

(By Katie Smith)

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier represents the sacrifices a soldier makes to defend our country. Knowing that I would be honoring the three fallen soldiers and any other soldier who made the sacrifice with laying the wreath meant the world to me. The history of the Tomb humbles me to know that people have given their lives protecting me and that they are still being honored for it. Multiple members of my family served in the U.S. military, including both of my grandfathers and my brother. In my opinion, the Unknown Soldier symbolizes the sacrifice, whether death or injury, a soldier risks taking.

I have personal experience with how a soldier sacrifices. My brother, SPC Andrew Smith, a soldier with the 82nd Airborne, was deployed to Afghanistan and was wounded in combat on March 8, 2012. While on patrol near Kandahar, an IED detonated next to him. He lost both of his legs and suffered some other severe wounds. Before he joined the Army, we asked why he wanted to do this, and he said, "I will do anything and go anywhere to keep this fight from coming here." He was aware of the risks that were involved in being a soldier, but he was so devoted to protecting our freedom that he was willing to sacrifice in a major way. Even though he is away from the war, he is still fighting. He fights for his life, mobility, and a somewhat normal life. While I was at Walter Reed National Medical Center, I noticed a whole community of people with titanium limbs, and knowing that they made the sacrifice for me and my freedom, as my brother did, is humbling. I will never again take for granted any of my limbs, my mobility, or my freedom because now I know that people lost those things while keeping me safe. I couldn't imagine what it would be like if I had to say that my brother made the same exact sacrifice the Unknown Soldiers did,

and I thank God every day that I don't have to. However, I would love to honor them in any way I can, all the same.

It is a great tragedy that has come over these soldiers, but it is also a great honor for them. They were brave enough to make that sacrifice, and they should be rewarded in every way possible. These men and women are true heroes, and I can't thank them enough for the service they've done for our country.

REMEMBERING HAROLD WILLIAMS

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, Portland was saddened by the loss of longtime civic leader and community activist Harold Williams.

Harold was best known as the longest serving board member of Portland Community College with over two decades of outstanding service. But he was already a fixture in our community long before that.

Harold earned two degrees, both his bachelor and masters degrees, at Portland State University where he was Director of the Education Center and where he exercised a strong voice on behalf of inclusion. From the very beginning, Harold Williams was a champion of opportunity for the underserved so it was only natural he would gravitate to Portland Community College. Young African American men received special attention from Harold, but he was a strong proponent of opportunity for everyone throughout our community.

Harold was a large man with an even larger personality and a greater heart until it failed him on July 1st. We extend our condolences to the Williams family and to his much larger family in Northeast Portland which will miss him dearly, but will forever be thankful for his many contributions.

CONGRATULATING DR. ROBERT FAWCETT

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to offer my heartiest congratulations to Dr. Robert Fawcett of York, Pennsylvania on being named the 2012 Family Physician of the Year by the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians. This is indeed an outstanding achievement.

Throughout his career, Dr. Fawcett has practiced a wide range of family medicine, including critical care, pediatrics, geriatrics and sports medicine. As evidenced by the previous awards for his medical work, Dr. Fawcett's skill and compassion has benefited hundreds of families throughout his career. In addition, his history of volunteer service has made his community a better place in which to live and work.

This dedication is shared by Dr. Andre Lijoi of York, who was previously named Pennsylvania's Family Physician of the Year in 2008. Dr. Lijoi has dedicated his career to making a meaningful contribution to the lives